FBIS DAILY REPORT

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DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING ENDS

PA250215 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The meeting of Central American deputy foreign ministers at the Hotel Presidente in this capital ended at noon today. Participating were Francisco Villagran of Guatemala, Jose Leon Talavera of Nicaragua, Ricardo Acevedo Peralta of El Salvador, Gerardo Trejos of Costa Rica, and Roberto Suazo Tome of Honduras. After preparing what will be the initial document of the Central American parliament [as heard], which will be held on 2 and 3 May in Guatemala, Salvadoran Deputy Foreign Minister Acevedo Peralta, upon reading the agreements reached for the creation of the parliament, said:

[Begin recording] My Central American colleagues have designated me to thank you [not further identified] on behalf of the Salvadoran people and Government for your collaboration and expressions of solidarity with our presidents' historical commitment. In their name and my own, I want to say the following:

First, this meeting is an important step toward achieving a summit meeting of Central American presidents, a meeting that must contain all of the elements, mechanisms, and solutions that will truly lead to the achievement of peace, democracy, and social justice. This effort results from the conviction that Central Americans must, at this historic time, take the initiative in the search for solutions to their own problems by creating the appropriate regional bodies and the suitable juridical and political instruments that will allow the safeguarding of Central America's historical and cultural unity. We believe it is opportune to reiterate at this important meeting our full support for the summit of Central American presidents, which will be held on 24 and 25 May. At this meeting the presidents will analyze very important issues for the creation of the Central American parliament and the importance of concluding the negotiations for the signing of the Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America in order to achieve regional peace. Finally, we expressed our desire to meet again soon in order to refine as much as possible this very important communique, as it should be a historic milestone in the achievement of an authentically Central American, regional, and democratic peace. [end recording]

V. Presidents' Meeting Postponed

PA241922 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1821 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Apr (DPA) -- In a last-minute decision adopted by the five Central American countries, the meeting of vice presidents to have been held today and tomorrow in the Guatemalan capital has been postponed until 2 and 3 May. The 2-3 May meeting will be held in Guatemala City. The office of Guatemalan Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicolle, who is coordinator of the summit of Central American presidents that will be held in Esquipulas, Guatemala, on 24 and 25 May, said that the decision to postpone the vice presidential meeting was made in order to learn and analyze aspects of the meeting being held by the group of deputy foreign ministers. These aspects must be analyzed and approved by the vice presidents.

The Esquipulas summit is considered a most important meeting for Central America's political and economic future. Its main topic will be the creation of the Central American parliament which has been proposed by Guatemala. Presidents Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, Jose Azcona of Honduras, Jose Napoleon Duarte of El Salvador, and Oscar Arias, who will by then have taken office in Costa Rica, have confirmed their attendance. The host will be Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo.

OFFICIALS CITED ON HABIB'S 'OPEN-MINDED APPROACH'

PY241751 Buenos Aires TIEMPO ARGENTINO in Spanish 23 Apr 86 p 3

[Excerpt] According to official sources approached by this newspaper last night, the immediate results of the talks between President Raul Alfonsin, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, and U.S. special envoy for Central America Philip Habib is the discovery that there is the potential for a quest for a negotiated solution to the Central American crisis. According to these sources, the change in attitude becomes more obvious if Habib's mission is compared to the one that his predecessor, Harry Shlaudeman, carried out 2 months ago in the countries of the Contadora Group. One of the sources said that "Shlaudeman's approach was inflexible, while Habib seems to be willing to be flexible in order to further rapprochement. After all, he is very experienced in handling difficult situations." The source added that "the Reagan administration has obviously issued a new directive, following a review of the Central American crisis in light of the U.S. domestic situation."

According to reports, one of the main differences between the missions of Habib and Shlaudeman is the former's clearly-shown willingness to discuss each and every one of the aspects of the conflict and, basically, his "open-minded approach to new proposals." The sources reported that Foreign Minister Dante Caputo played a key role in conveying Argentina's pro-dialogue position toward the conflict. One of the main characteristics of the minister's role was his insistence that the Central American crisis is a continental affair, which means that everyone must participate in the quest for its peaceful solution. Furthermore, Caputo was constantly supported by President Alfonsin, who frequently asked him to give his opinion.

During the meeting the president and the foreign minister tried to sound out Habib and his aides about Washington's position toward suspending its aid to the irregular groups that are harassing the Nicaraguan regime. However, although the U.S. officials did not sidestep the issue, no categoric explanation on the subject was obtained. In any case, the official sources that yesterday commented to TIEMPO ARGENTINO on the results of the meeting emphasized the significance of this new effort by the U.S. Administration to exchange opinions with Latin American governments. These sources pointed out that "this attitude does not seem to foreshadow drastic decisions regarding the crisis, but rather the possibility of a search for political solutions to this situation that affects the entire continent."

The sources also said that during the meeting with Habib Argentina ratified its points of view, similar to those of the Contadora Group, that the first step toward the pacification of the area must be the termination of all operations of and interference from irregular groups. The first impression that the meeting seems to have left among diplomatic observers is that there is a possibility that new political proposals could give rise to a review of yet insufficiently explored rapprochement formulas, for which there appears to be a new willingness.

CAPUTO CITED ON OBJECTIVES OF PEACE COMMISSION

PY232134 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1500 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Apr (NA) -- Miguel Ponce, the president of the Pro-United Nations Argentine Association, has reported that Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today condemned "the tense situation that the U.S. attack against Libya has generated, the methodology used to combat terrorism and the use of terror to fight terror."

Ponce made this statement at the end of the first session of the National Commission for the International Year of Peace which was held this morning behind closed doors in the White Room of Government House. The meeting was chaired by Aldo Tesio, foreign minister and presidential adviser.

Ponce noted that "the foreign minister began the meeting by making an extensive analysis of the paradoxical situations that we are confronting in 1986" saying that "on one hand there is an increased tension while on the other, this year has been declared the International Year of Peace." According to Ponce, Caputo continued by saying that "this in itself shows the weakness of some multilateral organizations, like the United Nations, which in its capacity as an international forum should have had a more direct involvement in terms of exerting power and being the forum in which conflicts can be resolved within the framework of international rights." He added that "by ignoring the existence of these organizations of power, the powerful and the politics of power are undoubtedly generating a dangerous situation that may lead to war and are causing tensions which we hope may dissipate in 1986."

Today, Caputo opened the National Commission for the Celebration of the International Year of Peace which is being held in keeping with a mandate of the last UN General Assembly. Before the meeting, the Argentine foreign minister said that "our basic function is to promote this initiative, promote the importance of peace, and the achievement of peace for everyone." Therefore, he added that "it is imperative to safeguard the adherence to legal order so as to guarantee the independence of countries." He explained that this commission "will be entrusted with propagating the objectives of the United Nations at the national level and with drafting projects in keeping with the UN program that seeks to achieve peace.

In January, the executive branch decided to establish this commission which is made up of legislators, ministers and members of the justice branch at the government and provincial level, and representatives from the eight national ministries and delegates from city councils. The commission, which is honorary in nature, today established the working committee and the liaison committee that will be in charged with carrying out consultations with non-governmental public institutions that are well-known for their dedication for peace.

Ponce Refuted

PY250143 Paris AFP in Spanish 2011 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Apr (AFP) -- The Foreign Ministry today denied that Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has condemned the U.S. raid on Libya. The president of the Argentine Pro-UN Association, Miguel Ponce, had said that Caputo condemned the raid on Wednesday in Buenos Aires. Ponce said that the foreign minister made this statement in a closed-door meeting of the Pro-UN Association, which was created to celebrate the International Year of Peace in Argentina. Ponce told the press that he contended, among other things, that the idea of fighting terrorism with terrorism stands as a paradox, particularly when this has been declared the International Year of Peace. Today, a communique from the Foreign Ministry categorically denied the statements made by third parties, which were attributed to the minister, and pointed out that only the foreign minister or his spokesman are authorized to make statements.

ALFONSIN TO ATTEND ARIAS' INAUGURATION 8 MAY

PY231332 Paris AFP in Spanish 2154 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Apr (AFP) -- It was officially announced this afternoon in Buenos Aires that President Raul Alfonsin will attend the inauguration of Costa Rican President-elect Oscar Arias Sanchez on 8 May. The communique issued by Government House states that Alfonsin's visit will be from 7 to 9 May.

Arias Sanchez made a private visit to Buenos Aires last week. He also visited Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay -- the three other member countries of the Contadora Support Group. The Costa Rican president-elect expressed his hope of gathering in San Jose the presidents of the Contadora and Support Group countries in an effort to get the Central American peace treaty signed in June. This will be Alfonsin's first trip abroad since September 1985, when he visited Yugoslavia, the FRG, and France.

ALFONSIN ORDERS 'DIRTY WAR' TRIALS EXPEDITED

PY250220 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Defense Minister German Lopez this afternoon released the instructions that were given to Brigadier Hector Canale, the Armed Forces general prosecutor, to expedite the cases of military personnel involved in human rights violations. The instructions to the prosecutor state that the growing number of trials and indictments has promoted disorder, has hindered the expediency of the legal procedures, and has impaired the Armed Forces' morale, because it has given grounds to the idea of a collective trial of the members of the Armed Forces. This idea is against the objectives of the ongoing investigation. The instructions stress that the criteria to be adopted will be that of the Buenos Aires Federal Appellate Court. The instructions were issued on orders from President Raul Alfonsin, in an effort to expedite the court procedure without hindering the administration of justice.

CENTRAL BANK DEVALUES AUSTRAL BY 1.2 PERCENT

PY242050 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] The Argentine Central Bank today devalued the austral by 1.2 percent against the U.S. dollar. Money exchange houses today are buying dollars at the rate of 0.84 australes per dollar and selling at 0.8410. The measures was adopted by the Central Bank officials, who informed the currency exchangers of the news by telephone.

PREPARATIONS CONTINUE FOR 'UNITED FORCES-86'

Protests in Cochabamba

PY221817 Paris AFP in Spanish 1320 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] La Paz, 22 Apr (AFP) --Cochabamba Prefect German Lema has reported that a terrorist attack took place early this morning at the Institute for Development of the Tropical Region [Instituto de Desarrollo del Tropico] of Cochabamba in the central part of the country. Lema stated that the office in charge of the planning of agricultural projects suffered some damage but there were no casualties. The police have begun an investigation to identify the attackers.

A few hours earlier, Interior Ministry Under Secretary Guido Meruvia stated that the city of Cochamba has become a center of convulsion and added that several sectors have prepared demonstrations against the government, especially to protest against the Bolivian-U.S. military maneuvers. He denied that military forces are prepared a campaign to spray herbicides in the Chapare coca producing zone, where the maneuvers will take place. The 7th Army Division, headquartered in Cochabamba, has reported that the first group of U.S. advisers, of the total of 270, will arrive today to plan the Bolivian-U.S. maneuvers. The same Army division also reported that the maneuvers will begin with night parachutings in the high plateau, and that the operations will begin later in Puerto Villarroel and Chapare, a region with many rivers and dense woodland.

U.S. Marines Arrive

PY250132 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] A U.S. Galaxy airplane carrying 400 U.S. Marines and military equipment arrived this afternoon at the Viru Viru International Airport under strict security measures.

The U.S. Marines are going to Cochabamba Department to carry ut joint Bolivian-U.S. military exercises. Many Santa Cruz citizens went to the Viru Viru airport to see the large U.S. airplane land. According to reports, the security measures were exaggerated, causing problems to the people who went to the airport.

Air Force Chief on Maneuvers

PY241926 La Paz Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The Bolivian Air Force [FAB] will probably participate in only a limited way in the joint Bolivian-U.S. military maneuvers next week, unless the problem of the insurance against accidents during military air operations is resolved by that time. FAB Commander General Jorge Rodriguez this morning told Radio Illimani that an interorganizational commission appointed by the government is drafting an agreement that might solve the problem. Gen Rodriguez emphasized that the lack of an agreement on this issue could cause the FAB to participate only in a limited way in the "United Forces-86" military maneuvers, which will be held in Cochabamba beginning next Monday with the participation of 270 U.S. advisers and 2,000 Bolivian soldiers. Gen Rodriguez was questioned on this issue and said:

[Begin recording] Yes, we are trying to overcome this problem. At any rate, if we do not have a timely solution we will participate in only a limited way. At any rate, we will participate. [end recording]

SODRE ON SCHEDULE FOR RENEWING

PY232211 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1521 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Vitoria, 23 Apr (EFE) -- Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto Costa de Abreu Sodre today stated that Brazil will resume ties with Cuba before congressional elections take place and by the time the constituent assembly elections are held on 15 November 1986. The foreign minister added that talks between the two countries will begin within a month to define "the level of relationship to be established."

Abreu Sodre said that the talks were postponed because of a bill U.S. President Ronald Reagan sent to the U.S. House of Representatives, requesting aid to finance the struggle of the armed Nicaraguan opposition. "It was difficult for Brazil to adopt a stand concerning Cuba while that state of affairs continued in Central America," Sodre said. Sources close to President Sarney have confirmed Abreu Sodre's statements. The secret talks will include the number of diplomats to be accredited, the number of consulates, and whether military attaches will be necessary.

SENATE LEADER DEFENDS INFORMATICS LAW

PY242344 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Senate First Secretary Eneas Farias has defended the Brazilian Informatics Law and condemned continuous U.S. pressure against it. Senator Eneas Farias was referring to a letter sent to Itamaraty by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in which the U.S. Government asked Brazil to adopt a more flexible policy in the computer sector. In the opinion of Eneas Farias, it is useless to try to pressure Brazil on that subject, because both the government and the individual politicians are determined to defend the country's sovereignty.

The senator from Parana State recalled that President Jose Sarney has already stated that the informatics Law will not be changed. After congratulating the president for taking that position, Eneas Farias said that technology is the only means for Brazil to attain international competitiveness without enslaving its people and without alienating its resources. He added that in defending the Informatics Law, the objective is to protect Brazilian industry against U.S. attacks, and expressed his fear that the pressure now exerted against the computer sector might later be exerted against other sectors of the economy.

BRITISH DEPUTY DEFENSE SECRETARY ARRIVES

PY230052 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Apr 86 p 8

[Text] Invited by the Armed Forces Joint Staff (EMFA), British Deputy Defense Secretary John Lee arrived in Rio de Janeiro at 0525 on 21 April. His official agenda includes a visit to Sao Jose dos Campos (97 km northeast of Sao Paulo), where he will tour the Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Enterprise] and the Engesa [Specialized Engineers, Inc.] factories.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONCERNED OVER ATTACKS

PY130122 Paris AFP in Spanish 0028 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Santiago, 11 Apr (AFP) -- Foreign press correspondents accredited to Chile today expressed their concern over recent attacks launched against them by some high-ranking officials of the government of General Augusto Pinochet. A communique issued by the Association of Foreign Press Correspondents states that we have been unfairly and publicly attacked by more than one government official. Besides regretting it, we fear that this means that we are witnessing a campaign against the work performed by the foreign press in Chile.

The situation appeared to become more acute on 11 April when Investigative Police Director General Fernando Paredes criticized the participation of some correspondents in a clandestine press conference held by the left-wing Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR), which advocates armed struggle against the military government. During that press conference, the FPMR claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of policeman German Obando, who was freed unharmed shortly after midnight.

In addition to the statements made by Gen Paredes, the Interior Ministry has asked a military court to interrogate the correspondents as part of the proceedings for the agent's kidnapping. Nevertheless, the correspondents association has stated that terrorism, violence, torture, and kidnappings are not the responsibility of the journalists, recalling that several members of their association were attacked during the past disturbances in Santiago and that the authorities have not solved these crimes.

FORMER MINISTER JARPA NOT TO RUN FOR PRESIDENCY

PY111630 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1537 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] Santiago, 10 Apr (EFE) -- Sergio Jarpa, formerly interior minister of the Chilean military regime, today said that he will not run for president of the nation. Speaking to fellow party members of the National Labor Front in Concepcion, 500 km south of Santiago, Jarpa flatly denied that he was interested in this candidacy. Jarpa said: "One needs much patience to be a president, and I have very little. I get upset when things do not get done, and I do not want to run around the country asking for votes."

According to the former interior minister and president of a right-wing party during Salvador Allende's administration, "he would make an awful candidate and an awful president of the nation because he would be hurrying the country along all the time." In his speech, Jarpa said: "One needs much patience to be a president, and I have very little. I get upset when things do not get done, and I do not want to run around the country asking for votes."

In his speech, Jarpa said that the Armed Forces intelligence services are "the most important means against terrorism." Jarpa also expressed agreement with the Chilean bishops, who have asked that the constitutional provision empowering the Military Junta to appoint the presidential candidate in 1989 be revised, because "it is not up to the Armed Forces to submit candidates." Commenting on Chile's foreign policy, the right-wing politician indicated that "mistakes, such as accepting a UN observer, have been made."

EL TIEMPO EDITORIAL ON U.S. ACTION AGAINST LIBYA

PA231904 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Apr 86 p 4 A

[Editorial: "The Law of an Eye for an Eye, a Tooth for a Tooth"]

[Excerpts] Terrorism is not new. What is new are the methods and the intensity this scourge have gained since the 1970s. The PLO was the first terrorist organization to hijack airplanes. The relative success and notoriety it achieved due to the great publicity that the news media gave its bold actions led to the proliferation of other terrorist groups in Europe, Japan, the United States, South America, and some Middle East countries. Bombs that kill men, women, and children, assassinations of important figures, kidnappings, and other terrorist acts have become daily events. Their objective, as their name implies, is to create a regime of terror that can then be used to obtain political goals.

The latest modality of terrorism -- that of sponsorship by some states -- is what Reagan wants to eradicate, because he considers it a war through middlemen in which the enemy regimes are able to carry out their attacks without taking any responsibility for them or exposing themselves to retaliation.

It has been seen that a heavy hand against the terrorists produces results. This is especially so when actions are taken against the sources that train and nourish those movements. If the umbilical cord between the members of the organizations and their support centers are cut, the terrorist will lose his vital strength. The terrorist is afraid of military interventions and these have the same effect on him as the fear that he wants to provoke in his enemies. In this way, ever since Israel began to apply the law of retaliation, through which for every attack on its citizens it would respond with bombings of training camps and of the peoples who welcomed and helped its attackers, the number of kidnappings, assassinations, bombings, and other forms of terrorist attacks against Israel has rapidly dropped.

President Reagan has opted for a heavy hand, and he also wants to apply the principle of an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. The Western world accompanies him in his crusade against terrorism. Nevertheless, there are many doubts and risks. Some people think that this policy is counterproductive because it might generate an escalation of terrorist attacks. It can also politically harm the United States because the natural reaction of mankind is to reject the action of the big against the small and this attitude might to a certain extent help Al-Qadhdhafi. There is also concern about the effect that this "punishment" might have on world peace and in particular on the relations with the Soviet Union. The initial reaction of the Soviets was to cancel the meeting of their foreign minister with Secretary of State Shultz. Their reaction was, fortunately, significantly more cautious and moderate than had been expected. But in any case, as Secretary Shultz said: "In this problem there are clearly a number of moral questions; but about which there must be no doubt is the right and the duty that democracies have to defend themselves."

FARC INVITES BETANCUR TO TALK IN CASA VERDE

PA232027 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Apr 86 p 3 A

[Text of FARC invitation to President Belisario Betancur, issued on 5 April]

[Text] Mr President: Since January 1983 we have participated with you in a struggle for peace in Colombia.

In this struggle, we have made significant accomplishments. We have made our best patriotic efforts, which no one in Colombia can hide or deny. The peace process is taking root in the minds of the Colombian people.

Therefore, it would not be just if you, Mr President, did not come to Casa Verde to talk with us about the important subject of peace, before you turn over the power. We look forward to your positive answer, as undoubtedly, the Colombian nation is also looking forward.

Yours truly, General Staff of the FARC,

Signed: Manuel Marulanda Velez, Jacobo Arenas, Alfonso Cano, Raul Reyes, Timoleon Jimenez.

Mountains of Colombia, 5 April 1986

GOVERNMENT SETS RESTRICTIONS ON ANDEAN IMPORTS

PA240407 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 19 Apr 86 p 3 C

[Excerpt] Yesterday Colombia applied the safeguard clause included in the Cartagena Agreement to restrict the importation of at least 50 products from Venezuela, Peru, and Ecuador, because they constitute abnormal competition. The measure was adopted by the Foreign Trade Directorate [Consejo Directivo de Comercio Exterior], and it was adopted while keeping in mind the alterations in exchange rates that took place in those countries and the effect these devaluations have on trade with Colombia. The safeguard clause implies that from now on the products in question will be subject to previous licensing, in other words that to import them, the pertinent authorities will have to grant approval, in this case the Foreign Trade Institute, Incomex.

In all, 33 customs tariffs were affected by this decision, which includes more than 50 products according to reports. Included are sea products such as canned fish or tuna, petroleum, shoe polish and asphalts, resins [resinas alcidicas], pine logs, and chemical petroleum by-products. Incomex did not disclose the names of the products included in each of the custom tariff positions. The government had anticipated the measure several weeks ago, but it aroused negative reactions in the other Andean countries, especially Venezuela. The Colombian Government had earlier consulted with the Cartagena Agreement junta about its application, but, until yesterday, it had not received an answer. The safeguard clause is one of the main points that Colombia is defending in order to reform the Andean Pact. Colombia specifically wants the mechanism to be automatic, reporting to the junta afterward.

Meanwhile, the Development Ministry decreed Resolution 303, dated on 18 April, whereby it released the tariffs currently in use for customs processes, examination, introduction into free zones, and transportation of import and export merchandise by customs agents. The ministry established that this is a highly competitive activity that leaves no room for monopolistic maneuvers, and that the effect of those tariffs is almost insignificant on foreign trade. The Development Ministry also refrained from issuing assembly licenses for the following sectors: telephone, consumer electronics, motorcycles, light airplanes, elevators, professional electronics, stationary motors, electric tools for manual use, and electric office machines.

MEDICAL STUDENTS, HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES DEMONSTRATE

PY242024 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 24 Apr 86 pp 8, 9

[Text] Hospital de Clinicas workers today held a meeting and decided to go on a general 24-hour strike involving health care and academic activities at this hospital. The strike was held to protest the arrest of five doctors from this hospital. The doctors were arrested yesterday evening in connection with preparations for the demonstration, which Clinics Hospital doctors, nurses, and employees staged today. Shortly after 0900 today, some 1,500 workers from the hospital held a meeting inside the School of Medicine. This meeting was also attended by many students from other schools and representatives of associations that have expressed solidarity with the workers of this hospital in their struggle for better wages. Approximately 5,000 people were gathered on the university campus.

At the meeting it was decided to express solidarity with the doctors arrested yesterday evening, "who are paying the price for the Paraguayan awakening," according to Dr Jose Zarza, vice president of the Association of Clinics Hospital Doctors. Drs Jose Bellasai, president of the association, Ursino Barrios, Anibal Carrillo, Carlos Semidei and Juan Masi were arrested yesterday. According to the public relations department of the Metropolitan Police, the doctors "were detained as a precautionary measure," in light of the demonstration that their association was going to hold. It was indicated that these doctors will be released at noon today.

Since early morning, police personnel and a few special Army brigades were deployed around Clinics Hospital. Unusual movements of police forces were also observed near the Finance Ministry, to which the hospital workers were planning to march, the Catholic University, and several other university schools, such as Law and Engineering. When the rally at the Medical School started several trucks arrived carrying platoons of civilians that had the tough look of the long-defunct "militia" [reference to "popular urban militia" which existed in the early days of the Stroessner regime]. The workers of Clinicas Hospital started their march from the hospital but avoided the police cordon that had been set up around Dr Mazzei and Guillermo Arias Streets [by which the marchers would have passed if they wanted to go downtown]. Singing "Beloved Fatherland" and slogans like "the people together will never be defeated," the approximately 5,000 demonstrators marched along Dr Montero Street in the direction of Dr Paiva Street.

From this corner, they went in the direction of the Justice Palace but a new police cordon, set up on Dr Lopez Street some 7 blocks away, stopped them. They managed to retain control and after singing the national anthem, went back to the hospital. When the students approached the police cordon a few journalists were involved in a brief struggle when the police would not allow them to cross the cordon. An obviously enraged plain clothesman took away the walkie-talkie of a Radio Paraguay reporter.

During the march numerous people standing on the sidewalks or at the windows of their homes displayed sympathy and solidarity with the demonstrators by applauding them and singing with them. The comment of a Clinicas Hospital patient to a nurse before the beginning of the march perhaps best summarizes this sympathy: "Go ahead my child, and may God bless you."

EDITORIAL ON BOMB AT U.S. ENVOY'S RESIDENCE

PY241513 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Apr 86 p 2

[Editorial: "The Terrorist Targets"]

[Text] A diplomatic mission has again been the target of a terrorist attack. This time the target was the U.S. Embassy residence. According to reports, the bomb consisted of a powerful explosive device planted inside a car that hit and destroyed a portion of the wall around the building located between Arequipa and (Perpituar) Avenues in downtown Lima. Fortunately, there were no victims.

Nevertheless, it is important to look at the circumstances in which this despicable action occurred. In the first place, this action coincides with an escalation of international violence, resulting from the U.S.-Libyan confrontation. The subersive Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA] has claimed responsibility for the attack, stating that it was a reprisal for the bombing of Tripoli and Benghazi. Should this be true, the MRTA would show two things; namely that it is linked with the regime of the ineffable Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who is accused of being the promoter of international terrorism, and that the MRTA is involved in things completely foreign to our national situation. In addition, the fact that the attack was carried out a few minutes after the end of curfew, that is, around 0510, is cause for alarm.

Therefore, it is only appropriate to ask oneself how effective is the military presence in the emergency state zones? An aggravating factor is the fact that the diplomatic mission should have been better protected by the police forces, usually assigned there. It is strange that they did not notice the imminent danger and did not even react immediately.

Another factor that must be taken into consideration is that the U.S. residence is located a few meters away from Radio Nacional and from a police station. Furthermore, it is known that this type of action always has great repercussions in the foreign press and deeply harms the image of our country in the eyes of the international community. Therefore, as we have already noted in previous cases involving attacks against other embassies, not only must the security at this type of building be strengthened -- because it has been proven that thus far they are easy targets for the terrorists -- but the intelligence services must also develop an effective way to prevent these attacks.

PRESIDENT, FOREIGN MINISTER MEET WITH HABIB

PA221423 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Late this afternoon President Jaime Lusinchi met with Philip Habib, U.S. roving ambassador for Central America. At the end of the meeting, Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi said that the United States is apparently making its position on Central America more flexible. Here is a report by Elsie Barrota.

[Begin recording] [Barrota] President Lusinchi, Foreign Minister Consalvi, and the new U.S. ambassador for Central America held a 1-hour meeting to discuss the Central American conflicts, the problems among the countries of the area, and the U.S. intervention in Central America, more specifically in Nicaragua. This is the first time that the new ambassador has visited Venezuela since his appointment. It has been said that he is a very prominent diplomat who is very close to President Reagan. He was President Reagan's personal representative in the Middle East from 1981 to 1983.

At the end of the meeting, we were unable to talk with the ambassador because he left very rapidly and stated that he would not make any comments. This shows the secrecy about the tour that he is currently making of Central America. The journalists were later able to speak with Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi about this meeting between the ambassador and President Lusinchi and its results:

[Consalvi] We have the impression that there is a more flexible position on the part of the United States because it has stated that if Nicaragua signs the Contadora document, it will make some rectifications in its policy. It is not up to me to judge these rectifications, but this unquestionably makes the process more flexible. It gives those of us who have been working so hard in this process some political cards to play and, well, we foreign ministers will meet in Costa Rica and 8 May.

[Barrota] Just as there were no statements by the new U.S. roving ambassador for Central America, there is no further information about the tour that he is making of the countries of the region. We have only learned that he has already visited Honduras and Costa Rica, but it is not known what country will be his next stop. We suppose that he will also visit the other member countries of the Contadora Group, which is carrying out peace efforts for Central America. [end recording]

CONSALVI ON UN SECURITY COUNCIL VOTE, ABSTENTION

PA230330 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Venezuela abstained from voting on the UN Security Council resolution on the Libya-United States conflict because the spirit of the resolution did not reflect the necessary balance. Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi stated this today, explaining the government's criteria in regard to the condemnation of the United States for bombing the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi.

Great Britain, France, and the United States exercised their right to veto when the motion was presented by nine countries representing the Nonaligned Movement. Five countries, including Denmark and Australia, voted against the resolution, and Venezuelan UN Ambassador Andres Aguilar's was the only abstention.

Consalvi today presented a copy of the speech delivered yesterday by Dr Aguilar at the Security Council meeting. The speech stated that Venezuela shares forums such as the OPEC and the Nonaligned Movement with Libya, where they make joint efforts to achieve a new international economic order, and as a Ibero-American country, he said, we share a historical background with the Arab world. Nevertheless, we share an old and good friendship with the United States, which began during the first years of our independence and has been strengthened by the values of pluralistic and representative democracy, and by close commercial and cultural ties.

[Begin recording] We abstained, and three countries vetoed the resolution. This explains why we made this decision, which was the best for Venezuela's interests and for our foreign policy. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Consalvi ruled out for the time being the possibility of our country's becoming an active member of the Nonaligned Movement. Had Venezuela been actively affiliated with that group, it would have been forced to support the resolution condemning the United States, because the nonaligned countries promoted the resolution.

Foreign Minister Consalvi also made another important announcement regarding the signing this week of an agreement with Guyana, whereby Venezuela will sell between 7,000 and 10,000 barrels of oil to that country daily and import 500,000 tons of bauxite.

BRIEFS

1986 OIL PRODUCTION -- The Ministry of Energy and Mines reports that Venezuela's daily oil production for 1986 has been established at 1.555 million barrels of crude oil, 115,000 barrels of gas-condensates, and 107,000 barrels of liquefied petroleum gases, for a total daily production of 1.777 million barrels of hydrocarbons. The report states that these figures are based on the oil industry's 1986 export plan, which establishes a goal of 1.410 million barrels a day. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 17 Apr 86 p 2-10 PA]

NEW MILITARY PLANE -- Maracay, 16 Apr -- Tomorrow the Armed Forces' Technical School will officially present the first airplane built in the country. "The Tacarigua" is the Venezuelan version of the Italian single-engine Harriot HD and its pilot will be General Candido Farias Rodriguez, the Technical School director. [Summary] [Caracas EL NATIONAL in Spanish 17 Apr 86 p A-1 PA]

YOUTHS OCCUPY DANISH, PORTUGUESE EMBASSIES

PA250211 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0123 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Apr (EFE) -- Two youth groups peacefully occupied the Danish and Portuguese Embassies in this capital today, spokespersons for those diplomatic missions told EFE.

A source said "the visitors" in the Danish mission, the number of which he refused to specify, "are very friendly and are in the embassy's reception area." He said that the occupants have refused to explain their action and added that the embassy is surrounded by the police, "who have not intervened in order to prevent any problems." The Danish Embassy is located in the "Polanco neighborhood," close to the embassies of Panama, Canada, Bolivia, and Pakistan.

Meanwhile, three men and a woman occupied the Portuguese Embassy, where Ambassador Francisco Knopsli is talking with them. They belong to the "28 February Popular Peasant-Labor Unity" an organization with leftist ties.

A spokesperson for the Greek Embassy categorically denied that the mission was occupied by leftist youths, as reported by a local newspaper.

PSUM CALLS U.S. SUSPENSION OF VISAS 'OFFENSE'

PA231816 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 18 Apr 86 p 4

[Text] The decision of the U.S. Embassy to suspend issuing visas to all Mexican citizens who wish to travel to the United States, "as a security measure," is one more offense to Mexico, because it is an implicit accusation that any citizen is a potential terrorist, the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) has said. The PSUM added that this measure violates the right of transit of Mexican citizens. The PSUM reiterated that this determination is one more violation of international law principles.

This measure could also be dangerous, because it is part of U.S. Government tendency to seek terrorists everywhere, "except were they are more abundant: at the White House, the Pentagon, and the CIA." The PSUM said that, in addition, President Reagan seems to be particularly interested in showing the alleged inability of other governments to control or fight what he regards as terrorist actions, and as a consequence to impose his services as the eradicator of the "evil forces" in his role of world gendarme -- a role that no one can grant to him because he lacks all traces of moral authority.

Because of the strong pressure exerted by Reagan and out of respect for the people's sovereignty, the PSUM has demanded that the Mexican Government stick to the country's anti-imperialist traditions. In this regard, the PSUM warned that the U.S. Government seeks to involve other countries directly in its warmongering and intervention strategy, using all possible means to convince people and governments of the need to align to the U.S. "schizophrenic crusade against the enemies of the national security of the Yankee imperialism."

The PSUM criticized the tepid position of the Mexican Government regarding the terrorist and criminal attack by the Reagan administration on Libya.

The PSUM also questioned the attitude of the big radio and television merchants who strictly abide by the Reagan version: that the aggression was in self-defense.

PSUM LEADER, PROTESTERS CONDEMN U.S. 'AGGRESSION'

PA240420 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 19 Apr 86 p 2

[By Fernando Aguilar]

[Text] Speaking before hundreds of demonstrators who gathered at the Independence Monument, Pablo Gomez, secretary general of PSUM [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico] yesterday came out in defense of Mexico and against the aggression of U.S. imperialism against the peoples of Nicaragua and Libya.

The march/meeting began at the Juarez Hemicycle at 1800 and ended at the Monument of the Independence Angel.

The Leftist Communist Unity [UIC], Revolutionary Patriotic Party [Partido Patriotico Revolucionario, PPR] and the Mexican Workers Party (PMT) participated in the march. As they passed in front of the U.S. Embassy, demonstrators burned U.S. flags and an effigy of the IMF and the Reagan administration and shouted slogans such as: "Reagan and Rambo are one and the same [son el mismo chango]" and "assassins, assassins," under the vigilant watch of soldiers and special antiriot squads who were guarding the U.S. Embassy.

During his speech, Pablo Gomez advocated a moratorium on the foreign debt, internal democratization of the country, and unity among the left to face a reactionary right that is uncontrollably gaining ground in the core of the government; they have been advocating the elimination of the common land and the right to strike lately. He also denounced compaigns on radio and television to strengthen private enterprise. He said that Jacob Zabludowski is one of those Reagan spokesmen who are trying to destabilize the nation." [quotation marks as published]

Meanwhile, Manuel Terrazas and Camilo Valenzuela, secretary generals of UIC and PPR, respectively, demanded that the examples of miguel Hidalgo, Guerrero, Emiliano Zapata, Juarez, and Cardenas, who fought for the independence and sovereignty of the Mexican people, be emulated.

They rejected U.S. meddling in Nicaragua and condemned the aggression against the Libyan people.

LEGISLATORS DEMAND U.S., LIBYA HOLD TALKS AT UN

FL250136 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0039 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- The Permanent Commission of the Mexican Congress demanded today that the United States and Libya submit their differences to the United Nations. The permanent commission also strongly condemned aggression by one country against another.

This was stated in a document signed by the Permanent Commission legislators who represent seven political parties, the governing PRI, the right-wing National Action and Mexican Democratic Parties, and the leftist parties Popular Socialist, Mexican Workers', Revolutionary Workers', and United Socialist Party of Mexico.

The document also condemns all forms of terrorism that assault human values and demands the end of all forms of aggression between nations. Conflicts between states, as serious as these may be, should be confronted through dialogue at the specific organisms of the international community, continues the document.

The Mexican legislators added that diplomatic and political negotiations should be formulated to resolve conflicts of state which make it necessary to reject the use of force and seek peaceful solutions that respect the principles and norms of international law.

Finally, the document notes the high level of danger represented by a confrontation between the United States and Libya and the natural repercussions this would have on the stability of a strategic area like the Mediterranean.

JOINT INVESTMENT VENTURES WITH PRC DISCUSSED

FL242128 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1925 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, 24 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- A group of PRC diplomats have met with Mexican Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development officials to explore possibilities of installing a textile plant in the Mexican border city of Ciudad Juarez. The group of Chinese diplomats was headed by the Chinese consul and vice consul of the Mexican City of Tijuana, Li Fan and Yuan Dexing, an official spokesman of the Mexican Government reported.

Li and Yuan proposed a partnership between investors from their country and Ciudad Juarez -- in the northern state of Chihuahua -- to process locally harvested cotton with Chinese techniques and produce good quality export textiles. The spokesman said the two Chinese diplomats had talked about their country's investors' willingness to facilitate negotiations and, if financial problems arise, conduct trade by barter, thus eliminating the need for hard currency.

The Mexican Government spokesman also talked about the possibility of signing an agreement with the Chinese on Mexican export crafts and textiles and other Mexican goods. Relations between China and Ciudad Juarez will actually begin next November with an exposition of Chinese products in this Mexican northern city.

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS 'ENEMIES' PLOT DESTABILIZATION

Officers Issue Declaration

PA250643 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0409 GMT 25 Apr 86

["Military Declaration" issued by the lieutenants of the 15th Training Seminar, dated 24 April 1986; read by Lieutenant Nino Baprio -- recorded]

[Text] We, representatives of the lieutenants of the Panamanian Defense Forces, in the face of our historic commitment to our homeland and its armed institution, considering that well-known political groups have attempted to increase their treacherous attacks and their anti-Panamanian campaigns, domestically as well as abroad, in an attempt to destroy the basis of the institution which we proudly represents and that, for the first time in our republican history, political groups, even though they may consider themselves very democratic and idealistic, have adopted the principle of constant submissiveness [entreguismo oficioso] and shameful incitement to possible foreign interventions, reincarnating themselves in the thoughts of [Philippe] Bunau-Varilla, thereby shaming their fellow countrymen; that those groups, with coarse malice, attempt to ignore the unbreakable umbilical cord which exists among the officers and troops of our forces and try to forget that today's officers were those who yesterday restrained the antipopular abuses of political and economic power and unhealthy submissiveness; that those groups, prompted from abroad and with a foreign mentality, want to corrupt the real and traditional democratic behavior and brotherhood that characterize the Panamanian people with their ideas that reflect a fascist tendency, their medieval retrograde philosophy, their attempt to disturb our republic's independent and nonaligned international policy, and their oligarchic desires for economic and political power:

We declare that we renew our oath as patriotic soldiers to reject in a straightforward manner all anti-Panamanian attacks and campaigns, from wherever they may come. As the responsible generation to take over [relevo generacional] command on the morning of 31 December 1999, we promise before the nation that we will not permit the conspiracy of local political groups, with foreign allies, aimed at attempting to prevent Panama from recovering its main natural resource in 1999, to be carried out by traitors to the homeland. We will not allow any national or external group to take from us the historic legacy that Commander Torrijos, together with his civilian and military people, obtained for the homeland through the current canal treaties that are today defended by the current high command, led by Commander Noriega with the General Staff of our forces. The officers who participated in this seminar are, together with our comrades in arms, guardians of the constitutional order and national integrity, and we shall not go down in history as men who turned their backs on their people, using the absurd pretext that because we were soldiers we were indolent in the face of the national anguish and vicissitudes, as the aforementioned groups would want.

We solemnly reiterate to all our worthy fellow countrymen that this canal will not be surrendered, subjected, co-administered, or compromised by our military generation and that we will safeguard the very Panamanian and nationalist legacy that Torrijos gave us yesterday and Noriega today.

[Signed] Panama, 24 April 1986

Noriega Statement

PA050652 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0414 GMT 25 Apr

[Statement by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Defense Forces, at Presidential Palace in Panama City on 24 April -- recorded]

[Text] Mr President of the Republic, ministers of state, honorable members of the local and foreign news media:

Mr President, on my return tonight to the country, from a mission you know about, I received the conclusions reached by the lieutenants of the institution during their 15th seminar. During the seminar they worked on matters that concern the nation.

As the democratic leader of the nation, the Defense Forces will give you their support according to the Constitution and the law. Therefore, we will not keep secret the decisions reached by the replacement forces, which we will release to the public.

The generation programmed to take over in 1999 considers that the insults being issued are a precedent to a plot. Therefore the institution, on behalf of the people it represents, of the entire country, from Bocas del Toro to Darien, is telling you about the plot, and it will deliver to you the resolution, the details of the plot being organized, the names of the plotters, and the plans, so that you may know what decisions the government should make to defend some of the nation's organizations; also so that every Panamanian, the Panamanians who struggled for the Torrijos-Carter treaties, may realize that we are facing enemies who are locally and internationally using money and lobbying efforts to prevent the canal from fulfilling its mission, which is to be Panamanian.

Mr President, tonight I will give you all the documents that the intelligence service and the lieutenants gave me. Thank you.

DE

Delvalle on 'Campaign of Slander'

PA250556 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0418 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Statement by President Eric Arturo Delvalle at the Presidential Palace in Panama City on 24 April -- recorded]

[Text] Fellow citizens: Upon meeting today with the Defense Forces General Staff, which came to present the results of the latest professional seminar, I wish to share with all Panamanians a series of concerns and reflections on our current national situation.

I wish to send my sincere congratulations to the distinguished group of lieutenants in the Defense Forces who have successfully concluded a seminar to analyze and evaluate the political, social, and economic situation in Panama. This will help them to fulfill better their responsibilities concerning the protection and security of our homeland.

Upon concluding these evaluations, they have proven their capacity and readiness to serve the Panamanian community. The ideals they pursue are an element of the men in the armed forces; they are the most noble ideals because they entail complete dedication to the homeland's highest interests. When preparing -- through studies -- to safeguard Panama even better, they are readily assuming the grave responsibility of our generation in the year 2000. Thus, Panama will begin the 21st century free of conflicts and wars and completely at peace.

Our homeland is being threatened today, we have to admit this, by enemies who are working abroad. However, there are others who work within our homeland, availing themselves of our democracy, freedoms, and tolerance. They want to undermine the peaceful and harmonious political coexistence which must prevail among all Panamanians. As president of the republic, I have the responsibility to safeguard the integrity of our homeland and respect for our institutions. I reassure my pledge and decision to fulfill this vow. I am deeply concerned and angered by the campaign of slander, half-truths, and falsehoods spread by a minority of evil Panamanians who -- supported by their economic means and unmentionable complicities -- continue to encourage and incite national and international public opinion to create a climate of uncertainty and a vortex of destabilization that will have fatal consequences for our homeland.

The international situation is worrisome, and the increased tensions and conflicts might reach our coasts, if we do not act quickly and decisively, and plunge us into far worse misfortunes. No Panamanian of patriotic will and courage will ever want this for our country or his family. We have evidence of the seditious and destabilizing efforts exerted by those evil Panamanians. I now ask our foreign minister, who is here, to offer us a more detailed report of these elements and present the evidence which has allowed us to give this message to all our fellow citizens.

Abadia Quotes U.S. Document

PA250713 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0421 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Statement by Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia at the Presidential Palace on 24 April -- recorded]

[Text] As you might recall, for some time now media opposing the government -- I will not mention specific names or specifically accuse anyone here -- I will address the Panamanian people with the truth, because that people will always understand us. [sentence as heard] For some weeks, some months now, an open war of lies and slander has been declared; we have reached the extreme in which any person or group of persons who opposes the governments is claiming the right to judge and condemn others on their own.

The time has come for us to speak the truth as it is and not behave, as the president said, like some groups who tell half-truths that are sometimes more harmful and poisonous than lies themselves. It is time that we confront this situation as good Panamanians; that we show who is telling the truth, that is who loves this country, and who is telling lies, that is who wants to destroy this country.

It has been said on innumerable occasions that the government and the Armed Forces promote illegal acts within the country as well as against persons transiting the country. An intelligence chief of Adolph Hitler's government said that a lie repeated 1,000 times becomes a truth. Tonight, in keeping with the respect deserved by the president, his cabinet, the general and his general staff, subofficials, all those present here, and the Panamanian people, we will speak the truth. We brought original documents that we can no longer keep secret, for the sake of calmness in this country. On many occasions we avoided involving ourselves in a diatribe or public confrontation, because this country needs the best efforts of its men and women to bring it out of the serious fiscal crisis it is experiencing. That is why we have dedicated ourselves, 24 hours a day, to working for the country and tried to avoid involving ourselves in a diatribe that would take away valuable work time needed by our fatherland.

A few weeks ago the Panamanian people learned about statements by the new U.S. ambassador in Panama, which the Panamanian Government did not consider to be the most appropriate. Some analysis was made, and the president decided to send the foreign minister directly to Washington to file a formal complaint before U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The foreign minister made that trip on the orders of the executive and with the support of the armed forces. We brought back from the U.S. State Department the original statement in English, to which Panama has not added or taken away a single comma or period. This was the result of our meeting with the secretary of state, and we present it for your consideration during this special meeting. In this document the secretary of state specifically states that this document is available to anyone who wishes to read it; it states that specifically.

The enormous support -- I am trying to translate the original document now -- the enormous support given by the civilian government and the armed forces to the U.S. Government to curb drug trafficking in Latin America; they acknowledge the enormous support given by the armed forces and the civilian government of this country, the support that it has displayed to eradicate this scourge causing very serious damage in the United States and other parts of the world. This is an official statement by the U.S. State Department that we place at the disposition of the media and all those present here. This is the original text and is available to anyone who wishes to confirm what we are saying.

However, this was apparently not enough. General Torrijos said that it seems as if lies have sharp points and sink in quickly, and truths are blunt [es roma] and do not sink in. We are telling the truth here, and we know that it will hit the minds and hearts of the Panamanians.

We hold documents dated 21 april 1986. Continuously we have noted half-truths in the media opposing the government.

They always look for a way to do harm, but not to this government and the stability and peace we are experiencing, the progress we are beginning to see in our country after so many efforts and sacrifices by so many men and women in this country. I am going to take the liberty of translating parts of the official document issued by Mr Elliott Abrams, U.S. assistant secretary of state of Latin America [as heard], dated Monday, 21 April 1986.

One part of the document states: In one of the regions -- speaking of Central America -- one of the regions where we have so many problems -- speaking of CEntral america and Panama -- we note the almost total absence of significant problems in Panama. This is one quote.

He refers to other things that we will also publish later, according to the president's instructions. In one paragraph Mr Ambrams says, quote: In matters of controlling the production and trafficking of drugs, as well as the components or chemicals that make the drugs, we have received excellent cooperation from Panama, from the civilian government as well a from the Defense Forces, unquote. These are the words of Elliott Ambrams on Monday, 21 April before a special Senate commission.

I will read another paragraph, quote: I want to call very special attention to the cooperation of Panamanian authorities in the fulfillment of U.S. Coast Guards activities. Panama has one of the largest fleets in the world; more than 12,000 ships bear the Panamanian flag. We have received prompt, affirmative, and invariable answers from the Panamanian Government to board and search these boats when we believe they are carrying drugs.

The ships bearing the Panamanian flag have always been open to searches by U.S. authorities with the prompt and efficient approval of the Panamanian Government, unquote. This was another paragraph from Abrams' statement before the Senate. I repeat, these documents will be made public when the president gives his aproval.

Quote, from the socioeconomic point of view, the Panamanian peoples' situation is, in general terms, favorable. There is general freedom of political expression for government adversaries, and there is an effective Legislative Branch... [break in transmission]

Delvalle Speaks Again

PA250627 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0430 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Closing statement by President Eric Arturo Delvalle at the Presidential Palace in Panama City on 24 April -- recorded]

[Text] You have just heard Foreign Minister Dr Jorge Abadia's clear words; he has explained unequivocally a situation which displeases us and puts us to shame as Panamanians. Given the information, I want to urge our fellow citizens to disregard the falsehoods issued by the merchants of hate and those who plot to destroy our democratic institutions, and Panamanian family's harmony, and eventually, our country as a soveriegn and independent nation.

The blood of our martyrs is the energy which nourishes our national spirit. Our Defense Forces have inherited our martyrs' legacy and represent a vanguard bulwark which protects our citizens, families, security, institutions, and homeland. The government which I am honored to preside over is firmly united and has the loyalty of its armed corps, which rises and acts like a monolithic force, as one man, under the command of General Manuel Antonio Noriega and his General Staff.

I urge all my fellow citizens to reflect and reject the falsehoods and rumors that Panama's enemies want to sow in your minds and hearts. Our minds and hearts harbor only the purest love for our homeland and the belief that peace and freedom are part of our nature, and those shall always prevail. Now, when most Panamanians live in a climate of peace and clam, is the time to engage in constructive work so that all, united, embark on the road toward progress and build the new homeland, the Panama of the year 2000. Thank you. [applause]

NORIEGA SPECIAL GUEST AT AREA DRUG MEETING

PA250324 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of Panama's Defense Forces, arrived in the country this afternoon after attending the international conference on the control of illegal drugs in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Gen Noriega attended the conference as a special guest, and he was the only armed forces chief of the continent to take part in the hemisphere conference organized by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA. On his way to Panama Gen Noriega stopped in Lima, Peru, where he met with Peruvian President Alan Garcia for 40 minutes.

COSTA RICA

PROTEST LODGED OVER NICARAGUAN BORDER CLASH

PA242005 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1708 GMT 24 Apr 86

[By Juan Ramon Rojas]

[Excerpts] San Jose, 24 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Costa Rican Government has lodged a "vigorous" protest to Nicaragua for the violation of its territory by members of the Sandinist Army in the Las Tablitas de los Chiles border region on 16 April. According to Costa Rican officials, on that day an undetermined number of soldiers of the EPS was caught by surprise in Costa Rican territory chasing "counterrevolutionaries."

A Costa Rican patrol sent to the area clashed with EPS soldiers using mortar and weapons of small but powerful caliber, for about 15 minutes. There were no casualties, it was reported.

The protest note, delivered to the media by the Foreign Ministry today, was signed by Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez and was addressed to Acting Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco.

A day after the incident, in a note to Gutierrez, Tinoco denied that EPS troops had clashed with Costa Rican public force members and stressed that Sandinist posts had been attacked by the contras from Costa Rican territory, but that they had been repelled. "I agree with the opinion of the Nicaraguan Government," Gutierrez said, "that these serious incidents deteriorate the climate of detente and trust that must prevail among friendly nations."

But he added that he calls attention to the fact that this opinion "does not prevent the Nicaraguan Government from carrying out actions that show disrespect for Costa Rican sovereignty, such as that which caused the incident." According to Gutierrez, with this attitude, the Sandinist government contributes, "in a very effective way" to make difficult and hinder the path to the peace wanted in the area and to an overall solution for the Central American conflict.

The Costa Rican official told Tinoco that "there is no possibility" that EPS troops got confused, because a short distance from the site of the clash, to the northeast, there is landmark No. 12, which marks the border between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

EL SALVADOR

COPREFA COMMUNIQUE ON DEATH OF ERP LEADER

PA242315 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Coprefa communique; date not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] ERP [People's Revolutionary Army] terrorist leader Cesar Alberto Valle Hernandez, whose pseudonym was "Poncho," was killed in combat on San Salvador volcano when the column he fought with clashed with military troops from the paratroopers battalion on 11 April. Valle Hernandez was a priest, ordained at the San Jose de la Montana Seminary in 1966. He remained active within the clergy until 1971. He later studied political science at the UCA [University of Central America], completing work in 1980, leaving only his thesis pending.

Poncho's militancy within the terrorist ranks dates back to 1977 when, due to the loss of his Christian faith and to his political ideology, he joined the ERP. He occupied the following positions within the rebel group: leader in the political field, teacher and counselor for fighters, and awareness leader for the masses.

He traveled to Mexico on 25 October 1981 to obtain documents and later traveled to Nicaragua. On 16 November 1981 he left for Nicaragua and remained there until January 1983, using the name Maximiliano Ruiz. On 17 May 1985, he was captured by 1st Infantry Brigade troops in Loma de Ramos Hamlet, Guazapa Jurisdiction, when the terrorist column he was a member of was attacked by surprise. He was later sent before a military court. On 23 October of the same year he was released from the Mariona penitentiary as part of the exchange for the release of Inez Guadalupe Duarte Duran, daughter of President Duarte, and the kidnapped mayors. On that date he rejoined the terrorist ranks and remained there until he was killed in the clash in question.

Meanwhile, one terrorist was killed and one M-16 rifle confiscated along with war materiel in a clash between an FMLN column and troops from the 5th Infantry Brigade. The clash took place near the El Pedregal Hamlet, San Vicente jurisdiction. In addition to this, five members of the FPL [People's Liberation Forces] presented themselves at the 5th Infantry Brigade headquarters. The rebel collaborators were identified as Pablo Antonio Sanchez, Cristian Esperanza, and the minors Nicolasa Esther, Elmer Giovanni, and Maria Doris Esperanza. They said they are from the (Las Aranas) hamlet and farm, Jiquilisco jurisdiction, Usulutan Department. Also, six pylons were destroyed by extremists in (Llano del Quilamate) canton, Jucuapa jurisdiction, Usulutan Department.

COPREFA REPORTS DEATH OF AIR FORCE PILOT

PA242319 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Coprefa communique, date not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] At approximately 0815 hours today Lieutenant Francisco Hernan Pereira, an Air Force pilot, heroically died in combat while on a reconnaissance mission in a helicopter. The incident took place in the vicinity of La Mesa Hill, north of San Ildefonso, San Vicente Department, where Hernan Pereira was shot from the ground. The helicopter, which suffered no damage, was guided by the copilot to the Air Force base in this capital.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA SPEAKS ON REGIONAL ISSUES, U.S. ROLE

PA250726 Managua International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra at an awards ceremony for former Costa Rican President Jose Figueres at the Cesar Augusto Silvo Conventions Center in Managua on 24 April -- recorded, broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] ...to Mr Jose Figueres Ferrer. We also welcome the Costa Rican friends and relatives who accompany him tonight. All the people in Nicaragua, all of us, have witnessed the firm, tenacious, and constant struggle carried out by Mr Jose Figueres Ferrer. The militants, fighters, founders, and forgers of the FSLN have witnessed that struggle.

We admired and respected that struggle because the struggle that Jose Figueres has carried out in his homeland, Costa Rica, in favor of democracy, justice, liberty, and peace is a struggle which was not limited to the Costa Rican nation. It is a struggle which he has carried out with a Central American spirit, with a Latin American spirit and determination.

Our people, our Central American nations, have been continuously threatened by wars and interventions; they have even been threatened, as I said, by the United States' expansionist policies during the last century. There has been a lack of political and historical understanding among the U.S. leaders concerning Central American, Latin American, and Caribbean problems. Hence, their systematic mistakes, arrogant positions, military intervention, and lack of political respect for the Latin American peoples, nations, and governments.

Following the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution, the United States remembered again that there are countries here, quite close to Washington and New York. Neighboring countries in Central America and Latin America: forgotten, attacked, and disrespected countries which are discovered again after the explosion of the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua. The U.S. Government again has the opportunity to change its dialogue of force, or policy of force, toward Latin America. It insists on this policy of force; insists on creating problems among the Central American nations, in shedding the Latin American people's blood in the brother countries of Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

The United States insists even more in shedding the Latin American and Caribbean people's blood. An evil policy of force continues to prevail in the United States. A policy of force may be just and necessary, for example, to achieve democracy in Costa Rica, as Jose Figueres achieved it, or to bring a democratic change in Nicaragua, as the FSLN has brought. However, the United States continues to cling to this evil policy of force against the Central American and Latin American people.

Latin America has raised its voice to reject the policy of force used by the U.S. leaders, during the battle which has been waged these last 4 years. Latin America has raised its voice to advocate a dialogue among the Central American nations; to promote a dialogue and peace among the Central American governments. Jose Figueres' voice and speeches -- always firm and coherent -- have also prevailed, defending the cause of peace, the principle of brotherhood among the Central American people, between the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan peoples. He has always advocated peaceful solutions, supported political solutions, and rejected aggressive and warmongering proposals.

Nicaragua, the Sandinist people's revolution, does not represent a threat for any Central American state; it does not represent a threat for any nation in Central America, Latin America, or the Caribbean. The Sandinist people's revolution does not represent a threat for the United States. We are a threat against the forms of exploitation which prevailed in Nicaragua; we are a threat against the illiteracy which prevailed in Nicaragua; we are a threat against the lack of housing, health services, and jobs which prevailed in Nicaragua; we are a threat against the violations of human rights which had been institutionalized by the Somozist regime in Nicaragua: We are a threat against colonialist, neocolonialist, and racist policies. That is definitely a fact.

We have struggled against all this and will continue to struggle. Nicaragua is not a threat to any Central American state.

The United States, the current U.S. rulers, have made an aggressive speech against Nicaragua to justify their terrorist policy against Nicaragua, and we are using the exact words, terrorist policy against Nicaragua. It is terrorism when you pay a band of criminals or mercenaries to come and murder the Nicaraguan people; to murder children, women, and old people in Nicaragua. It is terrorism to pay a band of mercenaries to come to destroy schools, health centers, and agricultural cooperatives in Nicaragua. It is terrorism to declare an economic embargo so the Nicarguan people suffer more hunger and have more needs. It is terrorism to disregard international laws, the suggestions of the United Nations and the International Court of Justice. All that is terrorism.

They have drafted there terrorist policy using the excuse that Nicaragua is a threat to the security of the central American states, that Nicaragua is a threat to Costa Rica, to Honduras, to all of the Central America, to all of the Latin america, to Mexico, and to the United States itself.

Why have they drafted this policy? To try to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution by using their mercenary forces, just as they have been doing, and accompanying the use of mercenary forces with a demagogic speech in favor of peace and peacemaking efforts in Latin America. This is why it is not surprising that at the same time that the President of the United States makes threatening speeches against Nicaragua, his representative visits the Latin American countries, saying that the U.S. Government and President Reagan support the peacemaking efforts of the Contadora Group.

While Mr Habib repeats that lie-filled speech in all the Latin American nations, trying to build false hopes, the truth is that the President of the United States, after bombing Libya -- causing the deaths of children -- has unleashed a campaign against our country. This makes Nicaragua an immediate target for a foreign military terrorist action that the U.S. rulers may be planning, or have probably already planned.

Mr Habib's words are demagogic, false, and cynical, while his President in Washington keeps saying that contrary, and while U.S. Army special troops are being deployed at the border with Nicaragua to support the mercenary forces that they have settled in Honduran territory. Such actions are not promotion a confrontation between Honduras and Nicaragua, but between U.S. troops that occupy Honduran territory and Nicaraguan troops. Of course, the excuse the U.S. Government would use to justify this type of action would be the alleged threat Nicaragua poses for Honduras. They already tried to do this in March, during Holy Week.

All those positions that Mr Habib is trying to sell are false positions. They are aimed at surprising Latin American opinion. The truth is here in Central American territory, where the U.S. troops continue to threaten Nicaragua, where the U.S. rulers have admitted that CIA advisers are visiting mercenary camps in Honduran territory; by tomorrow, the United States will probably admit that military advisers are with the mercenary forces. This is where the political and aggressive speech made by the President of the United States is becoming a reality, quite the contrary to the false hopes that Mr Habib is trying to build. They are playing a two-faced game. However, we have invited and continue to invite the U.S. Government to establish peace, establish real peace; establish peace without discussing Nicaragua's domestic problems. The domestic situation of a state cannot be negotiated. There is no such precedent.

Of course, the United states and Nicaragua could set a precedent if the United States were willing to discuss with Nicaragua its domestic situation. We would then give them our opinions on their democracy and would be willing to hear their side on the Nicaraguan democracy. We are willing to talk seriously, we have always talked seriously. When we use the phrase to speak seriously we mean that the first necessary step is a dialogue between the U.S. Government -- the U.S. Government that does not want the Nicaraguan revolution -- and the Nicaraguan Government.

The parties in conflict must talk, they must hold a dialogue. This is not a conflict between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, nor between Nicaragua and Honduras, nor between Nicaragua and El Salvador, nor between Nicaragua and Guatemala. This is a conflict between the United States and Nicaragua. Therefore, the logical thing is for the United States and Nicaragua to hold a dialogue. For what reason? So we can reach agreements for peace and security. We are willing to discuss the U.S. concerns over its security, and to reach mutual security commitments. We have a disposition for peace.

If the United States takes that step, the first step to accept a dialogue with Nicaraguan in order reach an aggreement allowing the normalization of relations, then Mr Habib's speech will no longer be false nor a lie. President Reagan would probably stop talking and acting as he is now. If the U.S. Government is truly in favor of the peacemaking efforts of the Contadora and Lima Groups, then why does it not listen to Latin America, in the voices of eight former [as heard] foreign minsters, who suggested the need for a dialogue between the United States and Nicaragua?

It is up to the U.S. Government to show that it wants peace. Nicaragua has the will and spirit for peace, but it also has the determination to fight to defend its sovereignty, self-determination, and independence.

On delivering this recognition to Don Jose Figueres, on delivering the Augusto Cesar Sandino Order in its highest grade, the San Jacinto Battle, we are putting it on the chest of the Costa Rican people. The Nicaraguan workers, soldiers, youth, women, children, intellectuals, and all our nation are delivering today through Jose Figueres, their love, sympathy, and solidarity to the Costa Rican people, by delivering the Augusto Cesar Sandino Order to someone who well deserves it. We are delivering this order through Jose Figueres and Cost Rica, to the Central American people, to the Latin American people, and to the peoples of the world, who love peace. Thank you.

D'ESCOTO CONDEMNS U.S. AIR ATTACK ON LIBYA

PA250023 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, who is currently visiting Athens, Greece, has condemned the U.S. air attack against Libya. The high-ranking Nicaraguan official described the attack as a flagrant act of state terrorism. Foreign Minister D'Escoto described the Reagan adminitration as infamous and criminal.

Willing To Dialogue With U.S.

PA242220 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2205 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Athens, 24 Apr (EFE) -- Nicaragua is willing to start a friendly dialogue with the United States, based on equality and national independence.

The statement was issued today in Athens by Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, during a news conference in which he denounced the continous attacks by the United States' mercenaries against his country. D'Escoto said that the United States' attack on Libya is "nothing more and nothing less" than a case of state terrorism.

Referring to Nicaragua's case, he said that the International Court of Justice in The Hague will decide, within 3 weeks, who is the terrorist.

Following the ousting of the Somoza dictatorship, more than 11,000 Nicaraguans have died as a result of attacks from the mercenaries who are paid by the United States, D'Escoto added. The contras' actions have also destroyed the production infrastructure in Nicaragua.

"They want us to counter their weapons with the burning of incense," but we will continue to defend our sovereignty, it was stated by the minister. He expressed his deep concern for the U.S. President's arrogance and actions, which violate international principles and the UN Charter.

Referring to the EEC, the minister said he is "quite worried" about certain member-countries' tendency to follow the United States' lead. He added that there is no evidence whatsoever of Libya's alleged participation in an attack in Berlin or the bomb brought aboard a TWA airplane. Nevertheless, he asserted his satisfaction and hope that the EEC will not join the embargo imposed by the United States against Nicaragua in May 1985.

The Nicaraguan minister, who arrived in Athens last Tuesday, coming from New Delhi -- where he participated in the nonaligned countries' conference -- will go to Paris tomorrow for an official visit.

Official Greek sources said that D'Escoto requested Greece's support in the EEC, during his meeting with Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. We are asking our friends in Europe to help us explain to the United States that the way it is treating Nicaragua does not serve the world's peace interests, D'Escoto said. He expressed his concern over the threats to peace in a world where the United States is making every country bow its head to Washington's interests and wishes.

The fact that we are continuing conversations to find a solution to the problems in Central America, despite the continuous attacks of the counterrevolutionaries, is more proof of Nicaragua's flexibility, D'Escoto said.

He also talked about Cardinal Obando y Bravo, whose conduct he said represents a "theological scandal" which has a negative effect on the Church of Nicaragua, Latin America, and the whole world. After betraying his people by going to the United States to ask for the appoval of the $100 million to kill people, Cardinal Obando y Bravo is still moving about freely in Nicaragua. In any other country, D'Escoto said, Obando y Bravo would have been tried on charges of high treason.

In reply to a question about the Catholic Church criticizing the participation of priests in the Nicaraguan Government, D'Escoto asked: Who is the church? And he said the church in his country supports his participation to help the Nicaraguan people.

"I cannot refuse to help my people," D'Escoto said, finally adding that terrorism is a problem that concerns us all and that state terrorism is the worst form of terrorism, promoted very often by the United States.

During his official visit to Athens, D'Escoto met with Papandreou and Papoulas and with Deputy Prime Minister Ioannis Kharalambopoulos and Archbishop Serafin of Athens.

TALAVERA ASSERTS WILLINGNESS TO SIGN CONTADORA

PA242215 San Salvador Canal Doct Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera has said that his country is willing to sign the Contadora document and participate in all of the mechanisms that serve peace in Central America.

The Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister, who is visiting El Salvador, referred during interviews here to the nonintervention of the United States in the internal affairs of the Central American countries and the condemnation of the U.S. attack on Libyan targets.

[Begin recording] [Talavera] The governments of the five Central American countries have agreed to further previous efforts to establish an agenda for the Esquipulas meeting. The agenda must sum up the consensus, willingness, and commitment to achieve political and peaceful solutions in our region.

This is why I am in San Salvador at this time, making this effort. The Central American governments are trying to make this meeting a success.

[Unidentified reporter] What other [word indistinct] do you believe should be established in the Central American region to achieve peace?

[Talavera] I believe that it is essential that the U.S. Government stop, for example, its efforts to provide millions of dollars, as in the case of the requested $100 million, which is currently on the U.S. Congress agenda and which will promote greater violence in our region and support the irregular groups that have been directed and financed by the U.S. Government with the intention of toppling our government.

[Reporter] Does Nicaragua agree that the Nicaraguan opposition parties should be allowed to participate in the Central American parliament?

[Leon Talavera] Nicaragua has never restricted the opposition parties. They have excluded themselves from some of the electoral exercises we have carried out due to certain differences with the government, but we have no objections whatsoever to the different political sectors' participation in a project that has been described as pluralist.

[Reporter] The Brazilian foreign minister said recently that Nicaragua will sign the Contadora document within a few days.

[Talavera] That is true.

[Reporter] Why was the Nicaraguan position expressed at the latest Contadora meeting changed?

[Talavera] At the latest Contadora meeting there was no document ready to be signed. The latest peace document for Central America was presented in September 1985 by Contadora, and it still has two chapters that are subject to debate. [end recording]

The Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister said Nicaragua supports the peace efforts being made by the Contadora Group and denied that his government has refused to sign the document. According to Talavera, Nicaragua is making every possible effort to achieve peace in Central America.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR CRITICIZES REAGAN REMARKS

PA241441 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to Nicaragua German Shlyapnikov has said that the United States could carry out against Nicaragua the same military action it carried out against Libya. Shlyapnikov described President Reagan's charges that Nicaragua is becoming another Libya on the U.S. doorstep as false. He stressed that Reagan's remarks seek to justify dangerous military actions against a sovereign nation. Here is the statement of the Soviet ambassador:

[Begin recording] First of all, it is a continuation of the aggressive U.S. policy against Nicaragua. From that viewpoint, there is nothing new about them. It is a false accusation. It is a charge that seeks to justify the aggressive U.S. actions against another sovereign country, in this case Nicaragua. This is clear.

There is another aspect. In my view, with such statements, the U.S. Administration wants to prepare U.S. and international public opinion for more dangerous, aggressive, and important actions against Nicaragua. That is why when he says these things that Nicaragua is another Libya on the U.S. doorstep, he means that the United States can carry out the same military action against Nicaragua at some moment when it believes it is necessary. This is a dangerous statement from the perspective of the development of U.S. foreign policy. The U.S. President's statement must also be seriously considered by all peace-loving forces in Central America and in Latin America in general so as to stop this kind of dangerous development that can lead to a more serious situation in Central America. It can create a much more dangerous center of tension than the one that currently exists.

Therefore, we remain firm in our solidarity with all the peoples who struggle against the U.S. aggression. We remain firm in our solidarity with the Nicaraguan people who are defending their sovereignty, independence, and their right to live in the face of the U.S. aggression. [end recording]

PAPER DEFENDS SOVIET PRESENCE, COOPERATION

PA250316 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 23 Apr 86 p 2

[Article by Adolfdo Miranda Saenz: "What Are the Russians Doing in Nicaragua?"]

[Text] "Is it true that after 2200 hours, military vehicles transporting Russian soldiers patrol the streets of Managua and arrest all Nicas [Nicaraguans] who are out at that hour?" This is one of many such questions asked outside Nicaragua. This is due to the propaganda against our revolution.

Reagan has insisted that the "Soviet presence" in Nicaragua is dangerous for the United States. He uses this as an excuse for his aggression. We know that a people who hold their dignity in high esteem, as our people do, cannot allow anyone to question their sovereign right to have friendships and good relations with all the countries on earth they want to, and do not have to give explanations to any other country, like the United States, regardless how powerful this country may be. To try and tell us what we must do is an insolence we cannot accept. Latin American countries like Mexico, Argentina, and Peru, have enjoyed good and fruitful relations with the USSR for many years. Costa Rica had diplomatic relations with the USSR many years before the triumph of our revolution.

What are the Soviets doing in our country? What do our relations with the USSR involve? The USSR supplies us with merchandise with highly favorable credit conditions. It also buys our products, paying with foreign exchange. These payments are made in cash. In 1985 the commercial exchange amounted to $300 million; 20 times more than in 1981. In 1985 the USSR supplied us with more than 2,000 vehicles (cars, tractors, as well as excavators, cranes, and public works machinery) and with more than two-thirds of our oil and oil by-product needs. It also supplied us with metal and aluminum sheets, acids, chemical products, tires, and asbestos.

In addition, in 1985 the USSR supplied us with 6.5 million meters of cloth; 147,000 tons of carbamate; 800,000 tons of vegetable oil; 500,000 tons of animal fat; polyethylene; paper used for printing purposes (paper used to print EL NUEVO DIARIO, BARRICADA, and even LA PRENSA); among other things. Also last year, the USSR sent us very valuable donations that included 70,000 tons of rice, wheat, and flour. They also sent us 8,000 tons of metal sheets, 4 million cans of meat and sardines, and other products that amounted to $30 million.

During the present month of April, the first donations of rice and wheat for 1986 will arrive from the USSR. The USSR is buying our sugar, cotton, meat, and bananas. Payment for these products is made with foreign exchange.

An "inter-Sputnik" station is being installed on the banks of Nejapa Lagoon. This station is equipped with television and telephone channels to improve our international satellite communications system.

The USSR is helping us greatly in feasibility studies to reactivate our gold production. It is doing this with its geologists and modern mining equipment. This work is being done in the "El Limon," "La India," and "Imire Central" mines. A group of Soviet engineers and technicians is carrying out serious studies on the possibilities of oil and natural gas in Nicaragua. The Soviet cooperation includes help in hydroelectric and geothermal projects, the construction of fuel dumps, irrigation plans for 36,000 hectares in Tipitapa, a textile factory with a yearly capacity of more than 3,000 tons of thread, and other areas.

Hundreds of Nicaraguan students are studying various careers in the USSR, and have received Soviet scholarships. Soviet professors work, without pay, in our universities and technology centers. Soviet doctors work in several hospitals throughout the country. Just recently, the Soviet hospital in Chinandega saw patient number 300,000.

There are many other areas in which Nicaragua receives Soviet help; however, the length of this article does not allow me to list each of them. There are no Soviet soldiers on the streets in Managua or any other area of Nicaragua. The Soviet presence in Nicaragua is only in the areas of aid and fraternal cooperation, based on an absolute mutual respect; respect for our sovereignty and freedom that we Nicas are very proud of. This does not represent any danger for U.S. security or for the security of any other country.

Reagan will always find an excuse to attack us; however, I do not see why we should change our feelings of fraternal friendship toward the Soviets.

Soviet-Nicaraguan relations are clearly beneficial for us and according to the agreements we have signed, our relations with the USSR will develop further as will our relations with the other socialist countries. We can only win from these relations. Why change this?

MALMIERCA AT UN CALLS REAGAN 'TERRORIST LEADER'

FL251254 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1101 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] United Nations -- Today Cuba told the UN Security Council that Washington is the headquarters of international terrorism and that President Ronald Reagan is its undisguised leader. Addressing the UN Security Council, which is meeting at the request of the Nonaligned Countries Movement, Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli spoke of the grave situation created in the central Mediterranean as a consequence of the aggressive actions of the United States against Libya.

Malmierca stressed the view of the Nonaligned Countries Movement that the U.S. aggression against Libya endangers peace, stability, and international security, saying that world solidarity is needed by that north African nation in view of the threat of new aggressions reiterated by President Reagan. In another part of his address, Malmierca denounced the propaganda campaign being carried out against Libya by the White House to present the Libyan Government as the organizer and perpetrator of terrorist acts and deserving of direct punishment.

HAVANA COMMENTS ON FUTURE WIDENING OF U.S. ATTACKS

FL241316 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dissatisfied with the crime he has just committed against the Libyan people, U.S. President Ronald Reagan is now repeating his terrorist threats against Nicaragua, Iran, and Syria. The present occupant of the White House insists obsessively on his terrorist policy, alleging now that the Sandinist government plans to create a new Libya on the threshold of the United States.

In his attempts to get the Congress to approve his plan to aid the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, Reagan has had no scruples in saying that the contras are the ones who are slowing down the purported plan to make Nicaragua into another Libya, and he has tried to justify the bombing attacks against the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi with the traditional pretext of protecting U.S. lives. Let us not forget that, with that same argument, Reagan gave the order to invade and occupy the small Caribbean island of Grenada in 1983.

In a note addressed to Secretary of State George Shultz, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has put things in their place by declaring that Reagan, by making such statements, has made use of state terrorism and is trying to create conditions for greater and more serious actions against Nicaragua.

Addressing a group of journalists, President Reagan again made threats, this time against Iran and Syria, saying that military measures could be taken against these two countries if he managed to obtain proof that their governments were responsible for a terrorist act. Having made himself into a universal judge in his most recent statements, Reagan has gone so far as to say that the United States could bomb Teheran or Damascus if he manages to get what he considers to be sufficient proof that the Governments of Iran and Syria are implicated in what he describes as terrorist actions.

REAGAN ADDRESS TO HERITAGE FOUNDATION NOTED

FL231324 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has told new lies and uttered new threats against Nicaragua and has asserted that he will obtain congressional approval for his request for more funds for the mercenary bands. During a speech at the Washington headquarters of the ultrarightist Heritage Foundation, Reagan said he intends to increase his pressure on the legislators to obtain what he wants.

REPORTAGE ON ECLA MEETING IN MEXICO CITY

Melendez on Foreign Debt

PA240350 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Report by Francisco Ramirez in Mexico City -- live or recorded]

[Text] ECLA experts continue to examine the foreign debt problem in Latin America and the Caribbean and the grave consequences derived from the adjustment and stabilization policies imposed on the debtor countries. The delegates from more than 50 countries, observers, and international organizations hope to conclude their work -- although somewhat late -- on Wednesday, when they will begin the ministerial phase of the ECLA's 21st period of sessions.

Certain delegates to the plenary meeting of experts stated their conviction that the two topics have become the most difficult part of the agenda, given the magnitude of our regional crisis and the stubbornness of developed capitalist countries. The Latin American group has already established its position in this concern, pointing out that the $368-billion foreign debt cannot be paid under current conditions without sustained economic development. Countries in the subcontinent indicated that the solution to the foreign debt problem demands an immediate political dialogue between debtors and creditors, respecting the principle of shared responsibility and establishing an equitable distribution of costs in the adjustment process.

Ernesto Melendez, minister president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, announced uppon his arrival in Mexico City that his country will advocate strengthening Latin American and Caribbean unity and thus find solutions to the dramatic economic and social situation. During his statements to the news media, the Cuban official discussed the foreign debt problem, unequal exchange, Latin American cooperation, and programs to readjust the economy. He also criticized the so-called Baker Plan's inefficiency. He said it is not a real and specific solution to Latin American and Caribbean problems.

De La Madrid's Agenda Requests

PA240435 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Mexico has asked the Economic Commission for Latin America, ECLA, to call a special meeting to discuss the urgent need to restructure international economic relations. At the opening on 23 April of the 21st period of sessions of ECLA's ministerial meeting, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid asked that the ECLA meeting discuss the foreign debt problem, commercial relations, technological aid, and international cooperation.

Argentine Planning Secretary Bernardo Grinspun said that his country supports President De la Madrid's proposal because it will be a good opportunity to discuss regional problems in which more countries will participate, unlike the Cartagena Consensus in which only 11 countries of the continent with the highest foreign debt are represented. Grinspun said that the foreign debt problem should be discussed with the creditor countries. We should demand the reduction of the interest rates which, he added, should be half of what they are now.

Economic Issues Discussed

PA241649 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] The participants at the 21st ministerial meeting of the UN's ECLA continue their discussion in Mexico City of policies for the stabilization, adjustment, and reactivation of the economies of the countries of the region. Spokesmen of several delegations believe that the main problem is that of the foreign debt, which is the principal cause of the constant transfer of resources abroad. Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid has stated that the global process of adjustment of the world economy was particularly inequitable for the debtor countries and especially for Latin America's development. Argentine Norberto Gonzalez, executive secretary of ECLA, said that interest rates on the payments of the foreign debt service must be quickly reduced. If this and other goals are not achieved, he said, the future of the region will be uncertain.

Melendez Rejects U.S. Remarks

FL242125 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2053 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Today Cuba strongly rejected a violent attack made by the U.S. delegation and warned that it is ready to give appropriate political, economic, and/or military response to any Washington action. Ernesto Melendez, head of the Cuban delegation, refuted the remarks made by the U.S. representative during his address to the 21st ECLA meeting. The U.S. delegate accused Cuba of introducing unacceptable political elements in this economy meeting and said Cuba and Nicaragua are encouraging subversion in Latin America.

The Nicaraguan delegation said the United States insulted Latin America and this ECLA meeting with the slanderous lies it said about his country. The U.S. delegate had asserted that Nicaragua is a threat to U.S. and Central America's safety. The Nicaraguan representative called on the U.S. people to think about the crazy things President Reagan is doing against the whole world every day.

CEMA MARITIME TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT SIGNED

FL250228 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] The 49th CEMA meeting for maritime transportation cooperation concluded today with the signing of a multi-lateral agreement. During the meeting, methodological charts were presented to accelerate the scientific-technical development of socialist countries. Among the outstanding agreements are those related to the consumption of combustible fuel and energy on ships as well as the elaboration of technological schemes to protect the marine environment from contamination. These general agreements will be applied in accordance to each country's condition.

VOA REPEATER PROJECT IN PUERTO RICO CRITICIZED

PA241650 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Apr 86

["Our America" commentary -- read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] It was confirmed in San Juan that the plans to lease a vast area in Coba Rojo, in southwest Puerto Rico, are already underway. In this area, Washington will install a repeater of the Voice of America, or the VOA as it is commonly known.

It is well known that since the reactionary Ronald Reagan rose to the presidency he has been involved in what has been called the war of airwaves -- the use of radio propaganda so that through misinformation or clumsy lies he can increase his efforts to erode socialism and attack the causes of the peoples for peace, independence, and national liberation. As part of a gigantic expansion of radio transmissions abroad, the United States has begun -- at a cost of almost $2 billion -- the construction or modernization of VOA repeaters on practically all the continents.

Regarding the VOA plans in Puerto Rico, there is increasing opposition to the repeater in Cabo Rojo, which is designed to retransmit VOA programs 24 hours a day, every day of the week to northern South America, the Caribbean, Central America, and western Africa. Political parties, civic organizations, religious groups, and the Puerto Rican people in general reject the plans to build in Cabo Rojo the main station of the network of VAO repeaters in the Caribbean and Central America. There are more than enough arguments to oppose this project of the USIS because the installation of such a repeater will be made in an area that has valuable archeological deposits and great tourist, agricultural, livestock, and commercial potential. All this would be lost by the Puerto Rican people.

The concern on the colonized island in the face of electromagnetic contamination is also notable because recent studies link shortwaves with neurological ailments, mental disturbances, and negative effects on the psychological behavior of human beings. In Vernon Valley in New Jersey, after approximately 14 antennas for satellite communications were erected, there were many cases of spontaneous abortions, stillbirths, and the births of many children with serious neurological problems, including several cases of mongolism.

Puerto Ricans are also concerned about the possibility that the land transferred to vOA in Cabo Rojo will be used for military purposes. This is a very justifiable concern because the U.S. media has disclosed that the new technology used in VOA modernization plans include the monitoring and transmission of coded information via satellite. It was also said that the repeater built in Sri Lanka complements the communications network of the U.S. 7th war fleet in the Indian Ocean.

Puerto Ricans have another reason that is more than enough to reject the Cabo Rojo project: It is that the construction of the VOA repeater will imply that Puerto Rican territory is being used as the main tool for ideological aggression and a misinformation campaign against the brother countries of our America.

AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL VISITS, CITED ON LIBYA, WALDHEIM

FL241952 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1832 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Austria has no proof of Libyan participation in terrorist attacks and this has been publicly announced by our government, said Herbert Neumayer, director of the federal press service of the Austrian Chancellory. Neumayer, visiting Cuba gave a speech at the Western European Study Center, where he said that his country condemns terrorism wherever it occurs and in no case have Austrian authorities accused Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of those criminal acts. In reference to the Yankee campaign against former UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, who is accused of being an active Nazi, he said that all the documents in question came from the United States. Neumayer said that this is a dirty blow from Washington to discredit the Austrian presidential candidate who defended the Palestinian people at the United Nations.

10,000 TONS OF SOVIET HURRICANE RELIEF RECEIVED

FL231515 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1411 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Havana's Mariel port workers have unloaded 10,000 tons of general merchandise in a 5-day record time from the Soviet ship Komsomolets Uzbekistana. With this achievement they salute May Day. The ship transported goods donated by the USSR to help alleviate damages caused to our country by Hurricane Kate. The unloading activities were conducted with voluntary work performed by Mariel port workers.

2 SOVIET COMPUTERS RECEIVED FOR STATISTICS USE

PA231449 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Apr 86

["Note" on scientific achievements -- read by announcer]

[Text] The State Committee for Statistics of Cuba has dedicated a new calculations center equipped with two Soviet (?PF)1022 computers that will process statistics in Havana, which is the province where all the state central organizations are established. The two computers supplied to our country by the (Golorf) enterprise have been produced by the Unified System of Electronic Machines, (?Insumso), of CEMA.

The characteristics of this equipment are as follows: approximately 500,000 characters of internal memory, 88,000 operations per second, four Polish printers, and four card readers produced in Czechoslovakia. The equipment also includes 15 towers of Bulgarian disks of 29 characters each; 10 towers of (?Czech) magnetic bands, as well as GDR-made equipment to prepare data. Cuba is working hard to equip the various economic, services, and science sectors with modern computers. The socialist members of CEMA are cooperating with Cuba in order to carry out this plan.

BRIEFS

THAI AMBASSADOR RECEIVED -- Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State, has received in a solemn meeting His Excellency Sirajaya Buddhi-Baedya, who presented his credentials as ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand. [Excerpt] [Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Apr 85 FL]

JAMAICA

OPPOSITION RAPS BUDGET STATEMENT POSTPONEMENT

FL242032 Bridgetown CANA in English 1956 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, April 24, CANA -- The opposition Peoples National Party (PNP) ridiculed Prime Minister Edward Seaga's postponement of his budget statement as evidence of economic confusion in the government and discord with international lending agencies.

PNP leader Michael Manley said Seaga had been forced into the delay because of his inability to reconcile the differences between his interpretation on national economic indices and the views of the international financial lending agencies in whose hands he has placed Jamaica in hock.

The government's JAMPRESS News Agency, in announcing the postponement from today until May 1, said it was to allow the prime minister time to complete four critically important negotiations on matters he will address in fleshing out the J5.8 billion dollar package that was presented to parliament.

The PNP, which is not represented in parliament having boycotted the controversial 1983 election, said it [would] go ahead with a presentation of a planned alternative budget in its regular peoples forum on Monday.

Finance circles have been speculating that the budget postponement was primarily due to talks Seaga is having with a joint team from the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), which recently reported on an earlier fact-finding visit.

The mission's report has not been made public, but speculation is that the team was unhappy with elements of Seaga's policy and possibly disapproved of some of his plans. It is also believed that the prime minister is tieing up aid commitments from international agencies which might be critical to his budget.

TRINIDAD-TOBAGO

DEMONSTRATORS PICKET U.S. EMBASSY FOR 2 HOURS

FL240010 Bridgetown CANA in English 2340 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, April 23, CANA -- About 25 people today staged a two-hour picket of the United States Embassy in Port-of-Spain.

The demonstration, organised by the Committee for Labour Solidarity and the Trinidad and Tobago Workers Association, was to protest the recent United States air strikes against Libya and U.S. backed war in the Caribbean shortly. Security at the embassy was strengthened.

SPONSORSHIP OF UN RESOLUTION ON U.S. CRITICIZED

FL250054 Bridgetown CANA in English 2351 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Port-of-Spain, April 24, CANA -- THE TRINIDAD GUARDIAN today lashed out at Trinidad and Tobago's sponsorship of a resolution condemning the United States air strikes on Libya presented but not passed at the United Nations Security Council on Monday. The resolution, sponsored by Trinidad and Tobago and four other council members and voted for by nine countries was voted against by five countries. It must rate as the biggest diplomatic blunder the government has ever made, worse than the refusal to take part in the Grenada invasion that outraged most of the population, states the paper in an editorial entitled Stupidity at the UN.

The paper says that the public of Trinidad and Tobago has been bewildered and astonished at the vote and asks who government was representing when it took the vote. It says that it expects External Affairs Minister Errol Mahabir or Prime Minster George Chambers to offer some kind of explanation in due course. The fact that the resolution was defeated makes no difference as the damage has been done, the paper complains.

In the eyes of the world we are now blackened with nations like our co-sponsors Madagascar, the Congo, Ghana, and the United Arab Emirates and with supporters like the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, and China. Those who opposed were leaders of the free world, nations with whom we have been traditionally linked link the United States, Britain, and France.

The move, the paper continues, is a stupid and callous fiasco on your part. It has done the country a disservice as it is sure to damage our relations with the United States and weaken our diplomatic position in the eyes of our Western neighbors.

MINISTER SIGNS UN LAW OF SEA RATIFICATION

FL231629 Bridgetown CANA in English 1608 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, April 22, CANA -- External Affairs Minister Errol Mahabir has signed the instrument of ratification of the 1982 United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea -- which establishes a framework for the regulation of ocean space, the government said. The 320-article document contains provisions limiting national jurisdiction over ocean space, navigation, protection and preservation of marine environment, use and research of marine territories. It also establishes the international tribunal for the law of the sea and the Jamaican-based international seabed authority.

A release from the External Affairs Ministry said last night that the convention was signed on behalf of government on December 10, 1982. The instrument of ratification, initialled by Mahabir yesterday, is now to be deposited with the secretary general of the UN. The Trinidad and Tobago Government is drafting national legislation establishing this country's sovereign rights over an exclusive 200 nautical mile economic zone to give full force to the UN convention and its provisions.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ANTI-U.S. PROTEST RESULTS IN SUSPENDED CLASSES

FL231444 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] In the Dominican Republic, classes at the state-run autonomous university in Santo Domingo were suspended yesterday following a demonstration on Monday against the U.S. attack on Libya. Authorities say eight people were injured, one of them seriously. The decision to suspend classes was made by the schools' ruling council to prevent further violence between students and police. In Monday's student demonstration, called by the Dominican Federation of Students, students hurled rocks at police, who responded by launching teargas bombs.

GOVERNMENT UNCOVERS PLAN TO DISRUPT ELECTIONS

FL242124 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 21 Apr 86, pp 1, 13

[Excerpts] The Armed Forces and Interior and Police Secretariats said yesterday that state security organisms have discovered the existence of a plan intended to sabotage the country's electoral process which will culminate on 16 May. They said that to execute the plan, violent actions have been planned for Santo Domingo, Santiago, San Francisco de Macoris, Salcedo, Nagua, La Romana, and other areas. The secretariats said in a joint document that on 22, 23, 24, and 25 April, groups propose to increase their activities with a national transportation strike.

BRIEFS

MARIJUANA TRAFFICKERS -- Santo Domingo, 19 Apr (EFE) -- Dominican authorities are investigating a group of Colombians, Cubans, and Dominicans who were arrested as they waited for a shipment of approximately 6,320 kg of marijuana. The marijuana was found in a small British fishing boat that had left Rio Hacha, Colombia, on 12 April and was seized in Dominican waters off the Peravia coast in the country's southwest, on 16 April. [Summary] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1502 GMT Apr 86 PA]

GUYANA

VENEZUELA OIL AGREEMENT EXPECTED TO END CRISIS

FL222100 Bridgetown CANA in English 2036 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Georgetown, April 22, CANA -- Guyana's President Desmond Hoyte said last [night, Monday] that his government's negotiation of oil supply agreements with Venezuela did not mean a reduction of its trading relations with Trinidad and Tobago, its traditional petroleum supplier. Hoyte also predicted an early halt to the country's severe two-month-old fuel crisis following the deal with Caracas which involves bartering Guyana bauxite products for Venezuelan oil products and financing mechanisms including credit and roll-over arrangements. All shortages would come to an end and the queues will disappear along with the several irritants engendered by the inadequate quantities of petroleum products within recent months, Hoyte told the nation in a radio broadcast.

Trinidad and Tobago halted oil credits to this country late last year after Guyana's debt reached about TT500 million dollars (one TT dollar 27.7 U.S. cents) and the Hoyte administration enforced fuel rationing in a bid to conserve extremely scarce foreign currency.

Hoyte said the Georgetown-Caracas agreement did not in any way reflect a lessening of our commitment to Caricom or to the expansion of Caricom trade.

On the contrary, I consider it important to stress that the arrangements we have made are not to be construed as a weakening of trading and economic relations with our sister Caricom state (Trinidad and Tobago) indeed, far from it.

Hoyte said the agreements had been carefully framed so as not to preclude us from importing petroleum products from our traditional source, Trinidad and Tobago.

And of course such imports will become possible as our own exports generate adequate export receipts, Hoyte added.

SURINAME

FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSES NONALIGNED MEETING

FL232022 Paramaribo International Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Suriname will, in the framework of the 25th anniversary of the Nonaligned Movement, organize a national and international seminar during which the principles of the movement will be illustrated. This, Mr Herrenberg of foreign affairs, said last Saturday during the ministerial conference of the Nonaligned Movement in New Delhi, India. In connection with the seminar, Herrenberg requested the assistance of the coordinating bureau.

During his speech at the ministerial conference of the Nonaligned Movement in New Delhi, Mr Herrenberg among others, pleaded for continuing efforts to the establishment of the international economic order. In this framework the minister also pleaded for long lasting solutions for the Third World's debt problem, according to Herrenberg, though continued flow of money from the South to the North, more sense of political reality, and a less stringent attitude of the international financial institutions are needed to get to grips with the debt problem.

Minister Herrenberg also informed the ministerial conference about the slight improvement in the relations between Suriname and the governments of the United States of North America and Holland. According to Herrenberg, this was made possible through the fact that these countries demonstrated a certain sense of reality. The minister also thanked the Movement for the solidarity they expressed toward Suriname at the Luanda conference. At this conference, the Movement pleaded for an open and honest dialogue with Suriname and condemned all interference in our internal affairs.

The Surinamese foreign minister also brought up the question of Commander Bouterse (?request) to the attention of those present. Herrenberg has especially concentrated on the smear campaign which part of the Dutch media practiced against our country.

The minister also repeated our government's standpoint with regard to the national and international drug prevention.